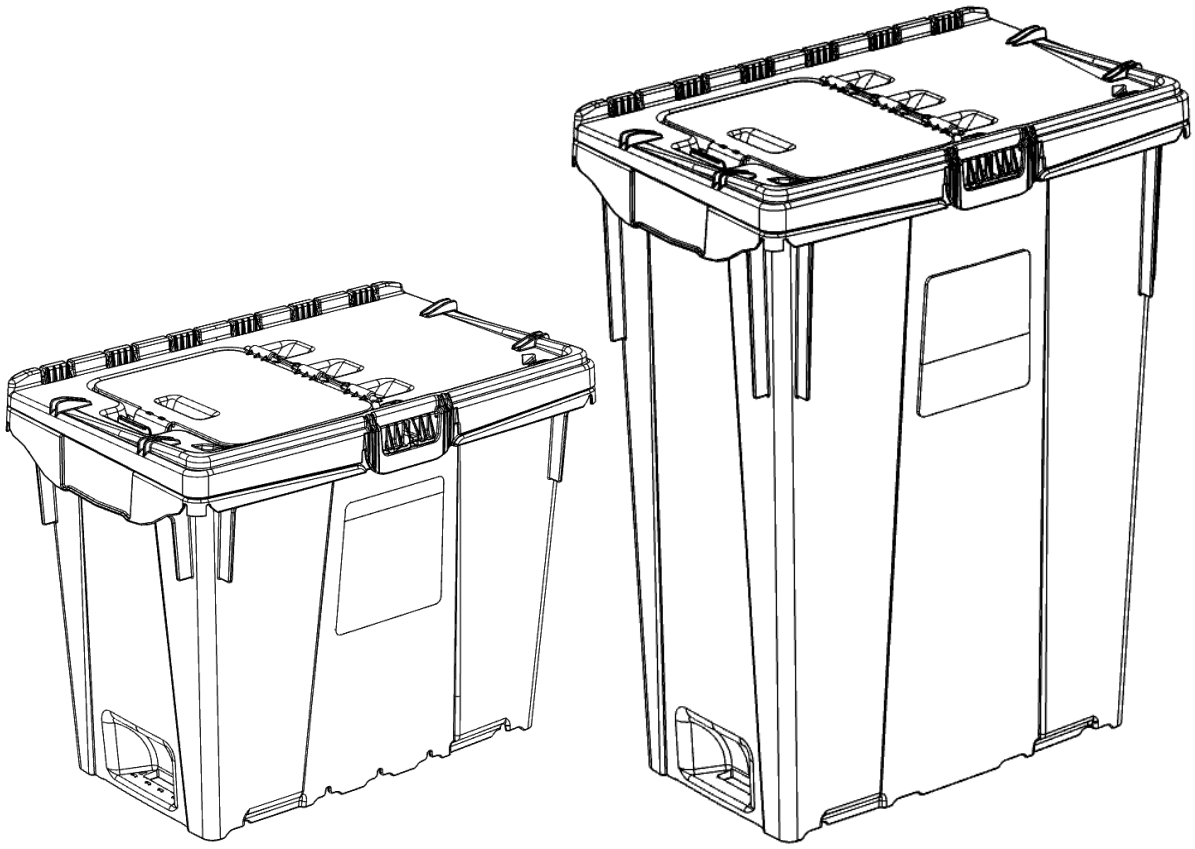

10 & 17 Gallon
Reusable Sharps Container

User Manual
(For Decanting and Cleaning)

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Product Description

The puncture resistant 10 and 17 gallon Reusable Sharps Containers consist of a plastic body container main lid and a sub-lid. Both the mail lid and the sub-lid incorporate a temporary latching characteristic and a final closing position. The temporary latching position is used to open and close the lid on a daily basis to dispose of sharps in the container. The final closure position is utilized to close the container prior to shipping to the decanting/cleaning facility.

Intended Use

Rehrig Healthcare Systems reusable 10 and17 gallon sharps containers are intended to be used for the collection and transportation of used medical sharps. The containers are intended to be used in non-patient areas including non-patient areas of hospitals and clinics, operating rooms, and laboratories by technicians, doctors, dentists, and veterinarians. These devices are not to be used in unsupervised patient areas.

10 gallon Empty Weight: 7.0 lbs

10 gallon Dimensions: 20.00”L x 12.50”W x 16.125”H

17 gallon Empty Weight: 9.40 lbs

17 gallon Dimensions: 20.00”L x 12.50”W x 25.8”H

10 and 17 gallon Color: Red with contrasting Biohazard Symbol

10 and 17 gallon Opening Dimensions:

Main lid opening (approximate) – 18.00” x 10.7”

Sub-lid opening (approximate) – 8.0” x 6.0”

Both the main lid and sub-lid have temporary and final closures. Temporary closures are intended to allow opening and closing of the container by the user and to protect against spillage if toppled. The final closure is designed to secure the container during transport and to minimize tampering with after the container is full.

General Guidelines

- Assembly – the containers are shipped to the decanter/cleaner fully assembled therefore initial assembly is not required. The decanter/cleaner may opt to replace a lid or label if their washing process creates wear on the product. If the decanter/cleaner wishes to replace components, replacement instructions are included at the end of this User Manual.
- Sharps containment – All sharps generated at the waste generating site must be contained in a sharps container and stored in appropriate areas prior to shipment and disposal. Filled contaminated sharps containers must be stored in controlled areas and shipped to decanting-cleaning facilities in a timely manner.

  Decanting facilities must control sharps waste after decanting and assure that sharps are contained in appropriate containers and storage areas prior to destruction and disposal.
- Sharps disposal – It is recommended that the decanter implement blood-borne pathogen procedures that detail the disposal of contaminated sharps. These sharps disposal procedures should include, where appropriate, how the sharps containers will be handled and stored after decanting, how and where the sharps will be destroyed, and the name of companies approved for the disposal of sharps after decanting.
- Sharps transport – It is recommended that the decanting-cleaning company and waste generator implement companywide blood borne pathogen procedures including procedures for the transportation of sharps containers. Filled sharps containers must be stored, handled and transported according to current local, state and national regulations. Both the waste generator and the decanting-cleaning companies should assure that shipping containers are labeled according to OSHA, DOT and other regulatory agencies, and that appropriate documentation, including shipping/tracking documents and manifests are completed.
- Decanting – It is recommended that each decanting-cleaning facility implement procedures and install equipment for decanting and cleaning contaminated containers. Equipment should be designed to be fully automated eliminating the need for manual opening, emptying and cleaning. Cleaning processes should be developed and validated by the decanter or third party and monitored periodically throughout the decanting and cleaning process.
- Container reuse – The container unit label includes a bar code. This is read by the decanter-cleaner to record and determine the number of container reuses. Testing has shown the container has a cycle use life of 300 cycles
- Final disposal – Once the container has reached the end of life (300 cycles) the container is decanted and cleaned and the expired container is disposed of by incineration following the decanting-cleaning company procedures and all applicable laws and regulation governing the decanting-cleaning company.

Life Cycle and Tracking

The 10 and 17 gallon containers have a reusable life of 300 wash cycles.

Rehrig Healthcare Systems provides bar code labels that adhere to the container as part of the unit label and recommends that the decanting/cleaning facility use the bar code labels to track the number of wash cycles the container has endured.

Once the container has reached the end of the 300 cycles, it must be taken out of service.
The decanting/cleaning facility should be aware of and follow all local, state, and national regulations when disposing of the expired containers. The decontamination facility should establish formal procedures for disposing of end of life containers.

At the end of life (300 cycles) the containers should be decanted, cleaned and incinerated.

Storage Conditions

Recommended temperature conditions for storage and use:

Operating Temperatures	20° - 30°C
Storage Temperature	20° - 30°C
Transportation Temperature	0° - 38°C

Suggested Decanting Guidelines

Contaminated containers should be emptied following all local, state, and federal guidelines and adhere to federal blood borne pathogen guidelines.

It is recommended that containers be automatically opened/unlock and emptied. Whether the decanting/cleaning facility is designing equipment or purchasing commercially available equipment it must have the ability to open/unlock and empty the sharps container automatically. Personnel should never reach into the contaminated container to remove contents.

Both the sub-lid and main lid remain attached during the decanting process.

Decanting-cleaning equipment should be subjected to a formal qualification program before being commissioned for use.

Suggested Decontamination Guidelines

Rehrig Healthcare Systems recommends that the 10 and 17 gallon Reusable Sharps Containers be thoroughly washed and decontaminated after each use.

The recommended method of cleaning and decontaminating the containers includes but is not limited to:

- The sub-lid and main lid remain attached during the cleaning process
- The main lid is left open during cleaning so that the inner surfaces of the container and the lid can be cleaned.
- Exposure of all container surfaces to hot water of at least 82°C (180°F) for a minimum of 15 seconds.
- Exposure of all container surfaces to a decontamination solution consisting of 5.25% hypochlorite solution diluted to 1:10 part hot water of at least 82°C (180°F) for a minimum of 15 seconds.
- Rinse of all container surfaces with hot water at a temperature of least 82°C (180°F) for a minimum of 15 seconds.
- Dry the containers prior to inspection, nesting, and storage

These are guidelines, and it is recommended that the decanting/cleaning facility develop cycles and processes through a formal qualification process. The qualification process should include both the decanting and decontamination process. Decontamination procedures and processes should comply with any local, state and federal guidelines and regulations.

Quality Inspections

It is recommended that product quality inspections be performed after each wash cycle to evaluate the integrity of the container. Inspections are conducted by the decanting/decontamination facility before the containers are put back in use.

Recommended areas to inspect include:

- The unit label and barcode to ensure they are still visible and readable.
- The lid hinges where the main lid and sub-lid attach to ensure full lid rotation and operation.
- The container latches where the main lid and sub-lid lock to ensure functionality.
- The base and corners of the containers to ensure no damage has occurred that would allow leakage or sharps penetration.
- The handles to ensure secure integration into the container body for safe support during waste collection and transportation.

It is recommended that these inspections and evaluations be documented within the decanting/cleaning facility's quality or documentation system.

A recommended quality inspection report is listed on the next page.

Inspection Report

In order to ensure that all reusable containers placed in service are free from defects and have been properly decontaminated, the following inspection report should be completed by the decanter prior to container reuse.

Container Identification Number: _____

	Yes	No
Unit labels are present and legible		
IFU label is present and legible		
Bar code label is present and legible		
Primary lid hinges are fully operational and lid is not damaged		
Sub lid hinges are fully operational and sub lid is not damaged		
Signs of damage to the walls or corners of the containers that would comprise integrity		
Any visible contamination on the outside of the container or lids		
Any visible contamination on the inside of the container or lids		

Date of inspection: _____

Signature of inspector: _____

If any container defects have been noted, remove the container from service and return to the decanting/cleaning facility's quality inspection department with a copy of the inspection report.

Component Replacement

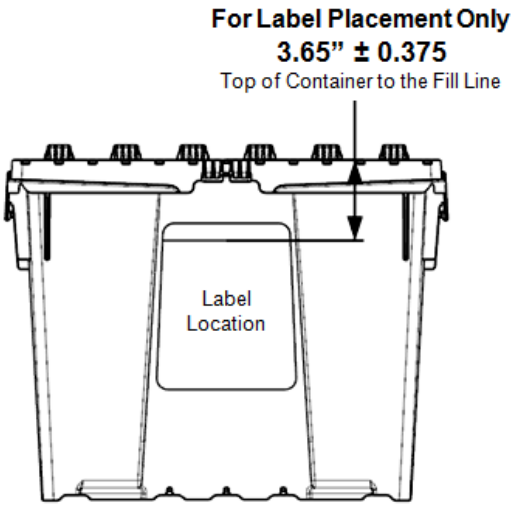
It is unlikely that normal use will result in product damage. However, each unique piece of decanting and cleaning equipment used could cause wear on the product. If, during the inspection process after decanting and cleaning it is discovered that the label or lids have become damaged those components can be replaced by the decanting company. Those components will be supplied by Rehrig Pacific. Replacement components can be ordered by contacting customer service at (part number list included at the end of the use manual):

Rehrig Pacific Company
1000 Raco Ct.
Lawrenceville, GA 30048
Phone: (770) 339-9888

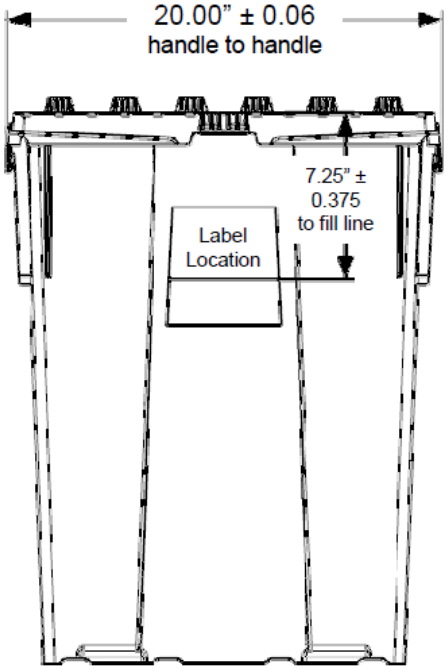
Label Replacement

If a label has been compromised or damaged, it is recommended that decanter/cleaner replace the label.

Unit labeling includes the fill line indicator making label placement on the container important. Labels should be placed as shown on the diagram below:



10 gallon Container



17 gallon Container

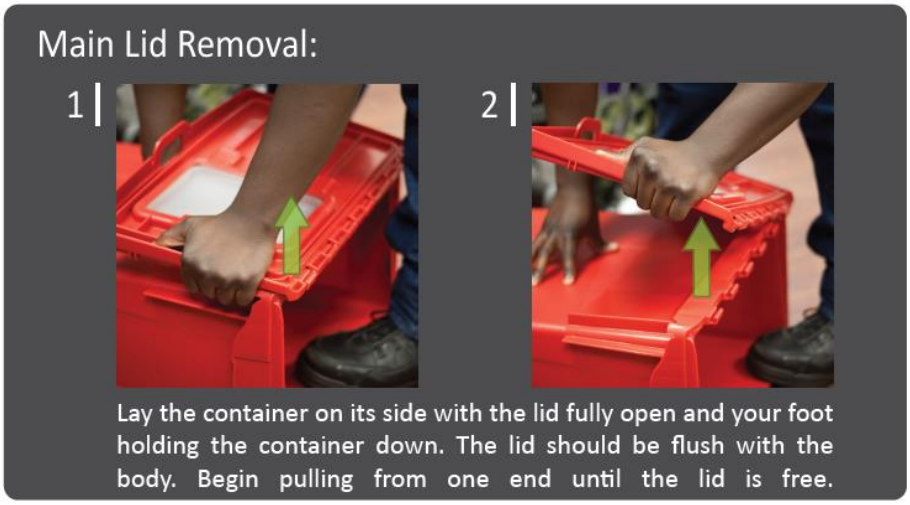
Lid Replacement

If the main lid or sub-lid have been compromised or damaged, it is recommended that it be replaced or the container be removed from service.

- Parts are replaced after the container has been emptied and cleaned and removed part incinerated

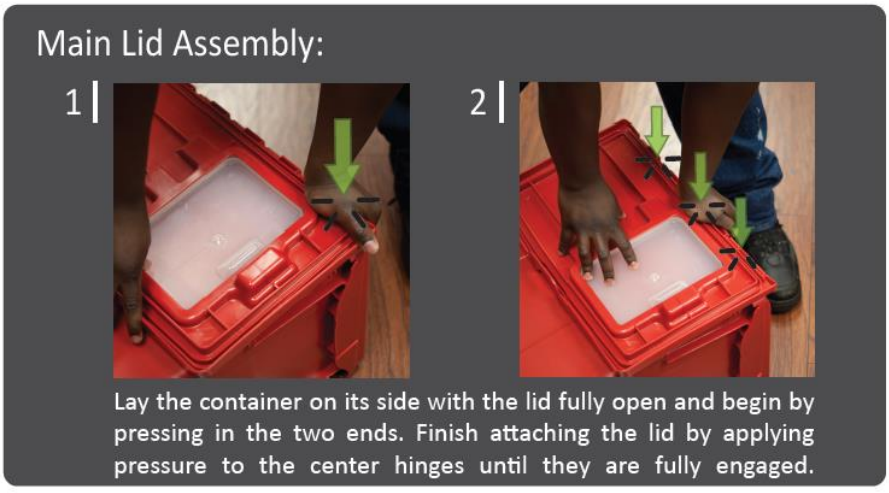
Main Lid Removal:

1. Grasping the main lid on one of the corners by the hinge
2. Place the other hand on the container body and pull on the lid while pushing on the container
3. Repeat Step 2 as needed to separate the lid from the container
4. Inspect the hinge pin area of the container to make sure the pins have not been damaged. If any of the hinge pins are damaged or missing the container must be discarded


Main Lid Removal:
1
2
Lay the container on its side with the lid fully open and your foot holding the container down. The lid should be flush with the body. Begin pulling from one end until the lid is free.

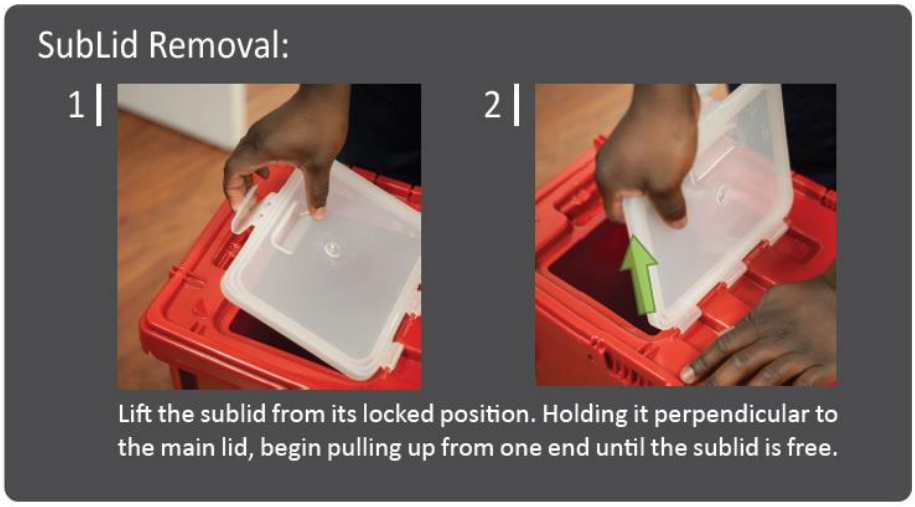
Main Lid Assembly:

1. Align the hinge opening on the lid with the hinge pins on the body
2. Once the hinge and hinge pins are aligned firmly push on the edge of the lid. The hinge will engage over the hinge pins. It may take several tries to get the lid seated on the hinge pins.
3. Inspect the assembly to assure the lid is fully engaged with the container. This can be verified by visual inspection and by opening and closing the lid to make sure it functions properly.


Main Lid Assembly:
1
2
Lay the container on its side with the lid fully open and begin by pressing in the two ends. Finish attaching the lid by applying pressure to the center hinges until they are fully engaged.

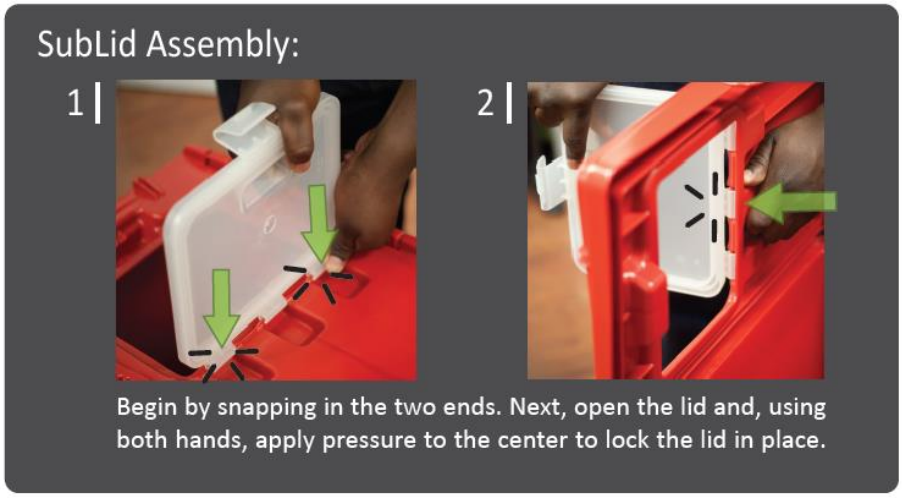
Sub-lid Removal:

1. Grasping the sub-lid on one of the corners by the hinge
2. Place the other hand on the main lid and pull on the sub-lid.
3. Repeat Step 2 as needed to separate the lid from the container
4. Inspect the hinge pin area of the sub-lid to make sure the pins have not been damaged. If any of the hinge pins are damaged or missing the lid must be discarded


SubLid Removal:
1
2
Lift the sublid from its locked position. Holding it perpendicular to the main lid, begin pulling up from one end until the sublid is free.

Sub-lid Assembly:

1. Align the hinge opening on the sub-lid with the hinge pins on the main lid
2. Once the hinge and hinge pins are aligned firmly push on the hinge area of the sub-lid starting with the ends. The hinge will slip over the hinge pins. It may take several tries to get the sub-lid fully engaged on the hinge pins.
3. Inspect the assembly to assure the sub-lid is fully engaged on the hinge pins. This can be verified by visual inspection and by opening and closing the lid to make sure it functions properly.


SubLid Assembly:
1
2
Begin by snapping in the two ends. Next, open the lid and, using both hands, apply pressure to the center to lock the lid in place.

Instructions for Use

(Decanter supplies IFU to the user/waste generator with each shipment)

General Use Instructions

1. Place container out of traffic areas
2. Sharps should be placed into the container by opening either the main lid or sub-lid and dropping the sharps into the container.
3. After the sharps have been placed in the container, the main lid or the sub-lid is placed into the temporary closure position.
4. Once the contents of the container have reached the fill line the main lid and the sub-lid are placed in the final closing position.

Sub-lid Closure

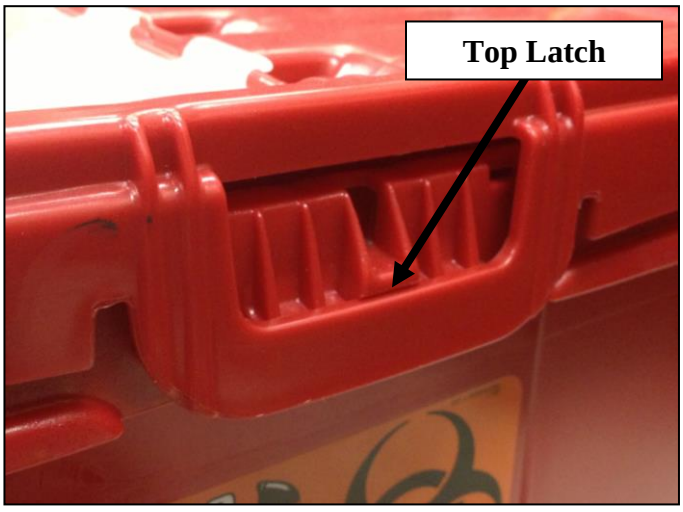
Push Down Snap Once for Temporary Closure

1. The sub-lid is placed in the temporary closing position by pressing the latch downward until a click is heard. The temporary latch is undone by pushing inward on the tab.

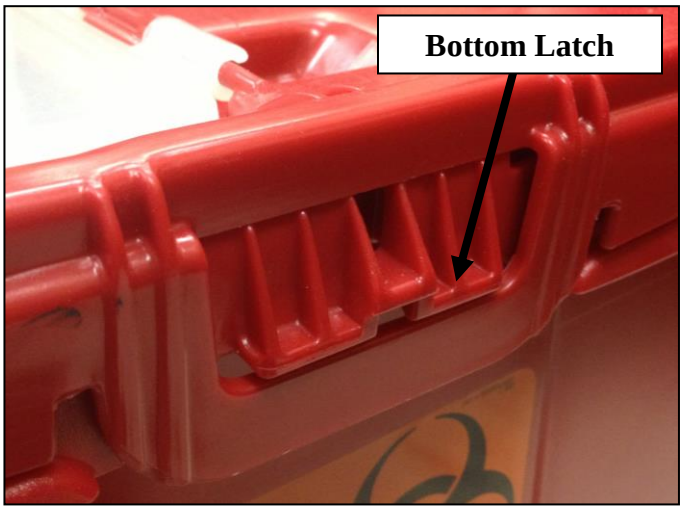
Pull Tab Forward and Snap for Final Closure

2. Engage the final lock by pulling the tab forward until a click is heard and tactile feel of the final closure snapping into place.

Main Lid Closure



1. Place the main lid in the temporary closure position by pushing the lid down until it clicks over the top latch.



2. Place the main lid into the final position by pushing the lid all the way down until it clicks over the bottom latch.

Removal of container from the use area

1. After the lids have locked in the final locking position the containers should be removed from the area and replaced with an empty container. Filled containers are to be picked up using the handles on the sides of the container.
2. Once a container is placed in the final lock position it should only be opened by the decanting-cleaning facility.
3. Filled containers should be stored in a designated area until picked up by the transport company

Shipping the container

1. Contact the decanting-cleaning facility or authorized transportation company to arrange a pickup
2. Confirm that the lids are in the final locked position
3. If container is leaking it should be placed in a secondary sharps container
4. Make sure that containers are labeled in accordance with local, state, national and transportation guidelines and regulations.

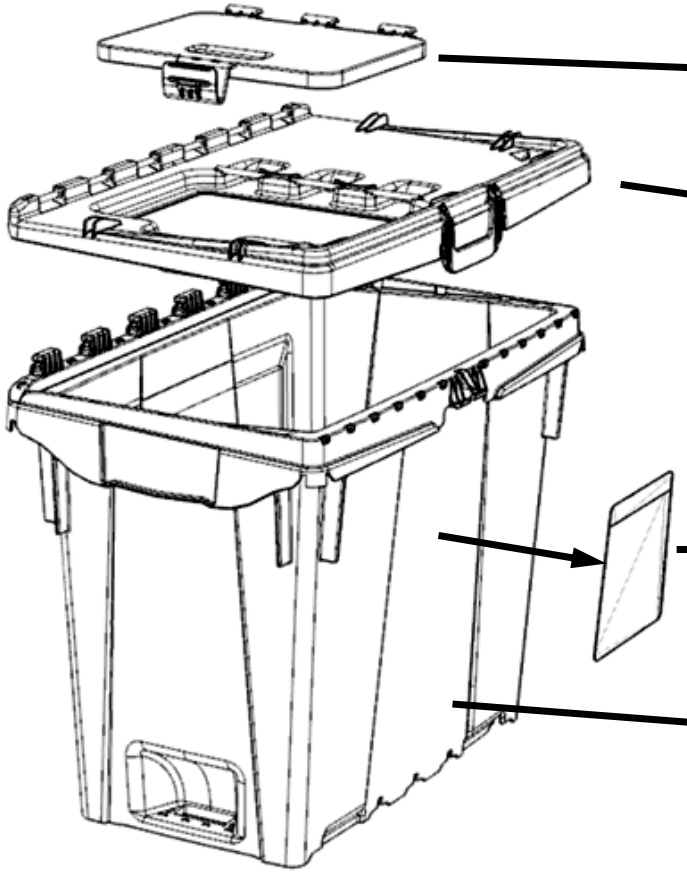
Warnings and precautions

1. Do not overfill container. Container should not be filled past the fill line indicated on the front of the container
2. Do not force sharps into the container
3. Do not place hands inside the container
4. Always carry the container using the handles
5. Once the lids are in the final locking position the lids should only be opened by the decanting-cleaning facility

Indications for Use

Rehrig Healthcare Systems reusable 17 gallon sharps container is intended to be used for the collection and transportation of used medical sharps. The container is intended to be used in non-patient areas including non-patient areas of hospitals and clinics, operating rooms, and laboratories by technicians, doctors, dentists, and veterinarians. This device is not for use in unsupervised patient areas.

10 gallon Part Number List



Sub-Lid Part No. MW008

Main Lid Part No. MW007

Label Part No. RMW17LABEL

Container Part No. MW016

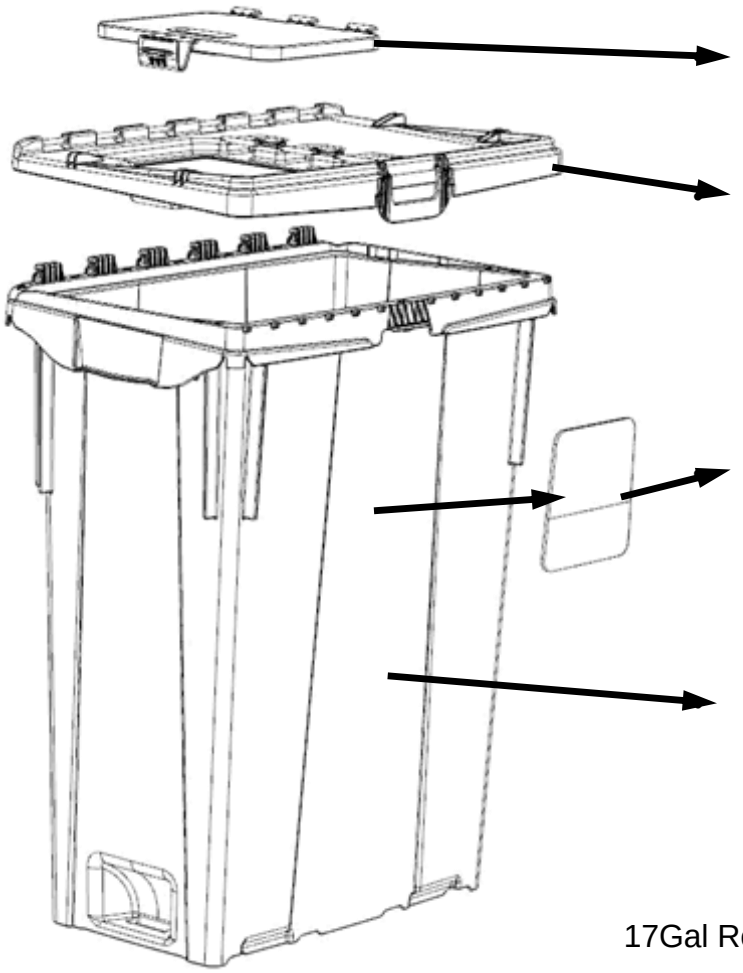
17Gal Reusable Sharps Assembly Part No. RMW17

ALL DIMENSIONS IN INCHES

Rehrig Pacific Company SINCE 1913

FIRST ISSUED	03-06-13	TITLE: 10Gal Reusable Sharps Container
DRAWN BY	MM	
CHECKED BY		
APPROVED BY		SIZE / DRG NO. 10gal RSC_Rev8_NP.prt / REV
		SCALE / SHEET 1 OF

17 gallon Part Number List



Sub-Lid Part No. MW008

Main Lid Part No. MW007

Label Part No. RMW09LABEL

Container Part No. MW006

17Gal Reusable Sharps Assembly Part No. RMW09

Rehrig Pacific Company SINCE 1913	FIRST ISSUED	7/25/11	TITLE: 17Gal Reusable Sharps Container
	DRAWN BY	MM	
	CHECKED BY		
	APPROVED BY		SIZE / DRG NO. / REV: 17gal RSC Assembly.prt
			SCALE / SHEET 1 OF

ALL DIMENSIONS IN INCHES

Protocol Approval History

Rev.	DCO No.	Description of Change	Revised By	Release Date
0	N/A	Initial Release.	Quality	2/2012
1	AT0049	Update	Quality	5/31/12
2	AT0199	Updated with 10gallon specs	M. McCanless	3/7/13